GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3306
ANSWERED ON:10.12.2001
RESEARCH PROJECT BY GULBERGA UNIVERSITY
SRIKANTA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Research Project has been launched by Gulberga University in Karnataka to combat salinity problemin Upper Krishna Project (UKP) area;

(b) if so, the funds provided by his ministry for the project; and

(c) the progress made so far on the project ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI)

(a) to (c) A research project entitled "Studies for Combating Salinity Problem in Upper KrishnaProject (UKP) Area"was sanctioned to the Principal Investigator of the Department of Bio-technology, Gulbarga University, in February, 1996 for an estimated cost of Rs. 6.02 lakh. The project was to be completed in 4 years time. First installment of Rs. 2,35,540/- was released in February, 1996 and the second installment of Rs. 80,605/- was released for the project in December, 1998 Thus the total amount released for the project so far is Rs. 3,16,145/-.

Indian National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (INCID),who is monitoring the progress, has reported that as per the Annual Report received for the periods upto March, 2000, the Principal Investigator has carried out experiments using petri-dishes and pots and small plots for initial screening and salt tolerance aspects of locally cultivated sugarcane, banana, groundnut, soyabean and sunflower. Field experiments on three locations were also undertaken in the saline area of Upper Krishna Project alongwith farmers awareness campaign etc.